



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Monsignor John F. Callahan Council 3600 of West Hartford

SERVICE DRIVEN BY FAITH

Greetings from Monsignor John F. Callahan Council 3600,

8-20-2011

Just a few Knights of Columbus activities to share with you today as the summer draws to a close.

Who We Are.

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic family fraternal service organization, with more than 1.7 million members in more than 13,000 Councils throughout North America, Central America, the Caribbean, Asia and Europe.

On March 29, 1882, the Connecticut state legislature officially chartered the Knights of Columbus, a fraternal benefit society founded by Father Michael J. McGivney with a group of parishioners in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven. Still true to its founding principles of charity, unity, and fraternity 129 years later, the Knights of Columbus has grown to the largest lay Catholic organization in the world with more than 1.7 million members.

Throughout its history, the Knights of Columbus has been an effective advocate and defender of civil and religious rights for all. The organization has also contributed billions of dollars and millions of hours of volunteer service to charity.

1. STAND DOWN 2011

As was announced last weekend at all Masses, the Knights of Columbus are supporting the 2011 Veteran's Stand Down Day. This is a National effort to support needy Veterans. These events are being held in almost all States during August and September.

The Connecticut Event will be held on Friday, September 9th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and is expected to serve approximately 1,200 Veterans in need of some sort of assistance. Members of Council 3600, here at the Church of Saint Thomas the Apostle

will join the four other Knights of Columbus Councils in town to contribute our Time, Talent and Treasure to support our Veterans.

By holding this Drive over the next few weeks at our Church we are striving to make it easy for you to help out as well. We will insure that all donations are delivered to our Needy Veterans at Stand Down 2011.

What is a Stand Down?

In times of war, exhausted combat units requiring time to rest and recover were removed from the battlefields to a place of relative security and safety. At secure base camp areas, troops were able to take care of personal hygiene, get clean uniforms, enjoy warm meals, receive medical and dental care, mail and receive letters, and enjoy the camaraderie of friends in a safe environment.

Today, Stand Down refers to a grassroots, community-based intervention program designed to help the nation's estimated 107,000 homeless veterans on any given night "combat" life on the streets. Homeless veterans are brought together in a single location for one to three days and are provided access to the community resources needed to begin addressing their individual problems and rebuilding their lives. In the military, Stand Down afforded battle-weary soldiers the opportunity to renew their spirit, health and overall sense of well-being. Today's Stand Down affords the same opportunity to homeless veterans.

The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) — a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Here is a Link to their website:

<http://www.nchv.org/index.cfm>

Bristol Press Wednesday, August 17, 2011 10:43 PM EDT

ROCKY HILL — The state Department of Veterans Affairs said Wednesday it expects more than 1,000 homeless and needy veterans to attend "Stand Down 2011" Sept. 9 at the state Veterans Home. The event, which runs from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., provides free services, assistance and information from federal and state agencies as well as local businesses and corporations for veterans.

Last year, a record 1,300 needy veterans participated.

Needy veterans or their advocates can pre-register and receive more information by calling (860) 616-3801 or by visiting www.ct.gov/ctva. However, preregistration is not required to attend Stand Down. Free transportation for veterans is available from pick-up locations around the state. Key urban areas to be served include Bridgeport, Danbury, Hartford, Meriden, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwich, Stamford, Torrington and Waterbury.

Here is a list of Items we are collecting for our Veterans. Donation Boxes can be found in the Vestibule of the Church at the Farmington Avenue entrances. Thank you for supporting those who have served all of us so well.



Stand Down 2011

Friday Sept 9th

7am to 3 pm at the
CT Veterans Home
287 West St. Rocky Hill, CT

It is our goal to provide each needy veteran with some clothing items at Stand Down. Here is a list of suggested items that can be donated. Deliveries are received August 1 to August 30, M-F 9am-11am or 1pm-3pm. Call Adrienne Nails at 860-616-3651 before you come.

Hooded Windbreakers - (L, XL, 1X, 2X)

Sweatpants - (L, XL, 1X, 2X)

Hooded Sweatshirts - (L, XL, 1X, 2X)

Hats, Scarves and Gloves - (All sizes)

Men's and Women's Slippers - (All sizes)

Socks and underwear (men's/women's)

Toiletries:

- Disposable razors/shaving cream
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Powder
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
- Combs/Brushes

Fleece Throws

We also need cases of Bottled Water for Stand Down. No other food items are needed.

DUE TO HEALTH REGULATIONS, ALL DONATED CLOTHING MUST BE NEW

NO GIFT CARDS, PLEASE

As an agency of the State of Connecticut, the Dept of Veterans' Affairs is authorized under IRS Code Section 170-(c)-1 to receive contributions designated for the STAND DOWN ACCOUNT to improve the lives of homeless and needy veterans of Connecticut in the annual "Stand Down - Connecticut Cares" event. Financial donations defray the costs of Stand Down and will be used only for the stated purpose.

Make out check to: *CT Department of Veterans' Affairs, Stand Down Account*

Mail to: Attn—Angella Bentley, Business Office,
Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs,
287 West St., Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

**We expect to serve 1200 homeless and needy veterans at STAND DOWN 2011.
Thank you for helping us "Serve Those Who Have Served."**

2. Wednesday 7:00 am Military Mass

Just a reminder that every Wednesday morning at 7:00 we hold a special Mass in Honor of all of the men and women Serving our Country and Defending our Freedom in the War on Terror. Since our Troops were deployed overseas in response to the Attacks of September 11, 2001 our Parish has kept a Vigil and offered Prayers for the successful completion of their missions and their safe return home to their loved ones. With the 10th Anniversary approaching fast, you are welcome to join us any Wednesday morning.

3. Eye Glass Collection

West Hartford Knights of Columbus Collected

Used Eye Glasses for the Disadvantaged

Recently the Knights of Columbus Councils from the Church of Saint Thomas the Apostle, Saint Brigid and Saint Helena's Parish collected used eyeglasses. This was done in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus Squires Circle of Northwest Catholic High School. Approximately 200 pairs of glasses were collected from these Parishes this summer.




Viewing the collection are (from the left) Council Chaplin Father Samuel Seyd, Council Treasurer Jeff Case, Deputy Grand Knight Ernesto Pitruzzella, Sir Knight Tim McKay, Council Warden Larry Gloekler, Field Agent Bob Kuszpa and District Deputy Chris Randall. Missing from the picture were Dan Pitruzzella and Chris Lynch of the Squires of Northwest Catholic High School.

The Knights of Columbus want to thank all of the Parishioners who donated their used glasses so that others can experience improved vision. Thank you for the Gift of Sight to others!

If you have any questions or comments on the above events, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the remainder of the Summer, Michael

<p>Knights of Columbus Monsignor John F. Callahan Council 3600; Assembly 3000</p> <p><i>Michael A. DeConti</i></p> <p>Program Director 320 Cumberland Road West Hartford, CT. 06119 1-860-232-1319 Home</p> <p>MichaelDeConti@comcast.net Sir Knight of Pope John Paul II Assembly 3000</p>	
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